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FORM**

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

11

Application Number

09/965,542

Filing Date

9/27/2001

First Named Inventor

Houser

Art Unit

3764

Examiner Name

Pham, Huong Q

Attorney Docket Number

010905

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☒

Amendment/Reply

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☒

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

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Information Disclosure Statement

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Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application☐Reply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation

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Change of Correspondence Address

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Terminal Disclaimer

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Request for Refund

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After Allowance Communication to TC

☐Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences☐Appeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☐Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):

Remarks

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name

Signature

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James G. Whyne

Date

February 24, 2005

Reg. No.

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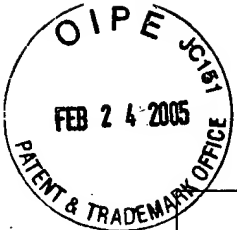
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February 24, 2005

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PATENT  
Docket No. 010905/ *erw*

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Houser, et al

Serial No.: 09/965,542

Filing Date: September 27, 2001

For: JOINT BRACES AND TRACTION  
DEVICES INCORPORATING  
SUPERELASTIC SUPPORTS

Examiner: H. Pham

Group Art Unit: 3764

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the specification and claims as put forth below. This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated August 25, 2004 for which a three-month period for response was given. A 3 month extension is provided with this response. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.